

In the Claims:**Claim 1 (currently amended):**

- 1 1. A flat heat pipe having a vacuum chamber which is provided with an evaporator in contact
2 with a heating element, and a condenser connected to a cooling device, said vacuum chamber
3 being provided in a hollow interior with a wick structure, and a predetermined amount of a
4 working fluid by which an evaporation-condensation cycle is effected;
- 5 wherein said vacuum chamber is provided in the hollow interior with a plurality of heat
6 conduction pillars;
- 7 further wherein said heat conduction pillars are in contact with an upper wall and a lower
8 wall of the hollow interior of said vacuum chamber, and said heat conduction pillars are
9 disposed ~~at or around a hot spot~~ only around a central section of the flat heat pipe so as to
10 enhance heat transfer allow condensates to be collected around both sides of the upper wall
11 of the flat heat pipe.

Claim 2 (currently amended):

- 1 2. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein at least some of said heat conduction pillars
2 have different cross-sectional area and shape from the others.

Claim 3 (previously presented):

- 1 3. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein said heat conduction pillars are made of a
2 material having a high thermal conductivity.

Claim 4 (previously presented):

- 1 4. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, which further comprises a plurality of wick
2 structures arranged alternately with the heat conduction pillars to enhance the evaporation-
3 condensation cycle.

Claim 5 (previously presented):

- 1 5. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 4, wherein said wick structures are of a porous medium
2 made of a sintered metal powder.

Claim 6 (previously presented):

- 1 6. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 4, wherein said wick structures are of a mesh or metal
2 spring.

Claim 7 (previously presented):

- 1 7. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1, wherein said heat conduction pillars have a grooved
2 or porous structure to enhance the evaporation-condensation cycle.

Claim 8 (previously presented):

- 1 8. The flat heat pipe as defined in claim 1 which further comprises support pillars disposed to
2 provide structural support.